

PINGREE-ALGER ALLIANCE.

POSSIBLE CONSEQUENCES OF THE SECRETARY OF WAR'S ACTION.

SPECULATION AS TO THE ADMINISTRATION'S COURSE - PINGREE'S POWER IN MICHIGAN-QUESTION OF ALGER'S RESIGNATION.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

Detroit, June 25.-The alliance between Governor

ernor Pingree and Secretary Alger for the purpose of defeating the re-election of Senator McMillan to the United States Senate was formally announced here last week, and continued in spite of the fact that among well-informed people it was known to be impending for the last six months, to be the political sensation of the hour. A short year ago it would have been a bold man who should have ventured to predict a Pingree-Alger coalition for any purpose whatsoever. The two men were known to hold diametrically opposed views on most subjects, political and financial. The conversion, therefore, of Secretary Alger to the somewhat radical views of Governor Pingree on trusts, taxation of the railroads and the election of Senators by a direct vote of the people excites something more than passing comment. It gives

rise to the risk that it is the signal for the beginning of a faction fight which not only will threaten to disrupt the party in the State, but may likewise force the National Administration in Washington, against its will, into taking sides with either one or the other of the contending factions.

PINGREE RULING POWER IN STATE.

The political conditions in the State are peculiar. Though he calls himself a Republican, Governor Pingree is a law unto himself. Party platforms do not bind him. The wishes of conventions he ignores. Candidates for the Legislature must be loyal to him first and to their constituencies afterward. He exacts blind obedience to his orders, and rules his following in the most approved fashion of a benevolent despot.

He is, indeed, the ideal political "boss." Talk about the Quays, the Platts, the Gormans! Alongside of Pingree they are not "in it." Imagine a district convention in New-York or Pennsylvania, after having chosen a candidate for

The Legislature, told that its action must be rescinded and So-and-So chosen. Here it is a common occurrence, and what is more, so implicit is the faith of the Pingereites in the judgment, discretion and rectitude of their leaders that they promptly and cheerfully comply with his least wish. His control over his followers is indeed marvellous. It has no parallel in this or any other country.

Leaving out of consideration the Democratic organization, whose decline and fall might interestingly be set forth some day by our distinguished fellow-townsmen, De M. Dickinson, there is nothing to oppose the Pingree influence.

tion, such act is, in their hands, and heretofore that fact has been duly recognized by the Administration in Washington. To illustrate this, it is necessary only to recall one of the chief grievances the Pingree people had against President McKinley in the campaign of last autumn. They charged not merely that Federal appointments had been manipulated in the interest of Senator Burrows, but they insisted that their pet scheme of "equal taxation" was beaten in the Legislature by the treachery of a single member, who resigned his seat at a critical time when his presence would have insured the passage of the measure, and whose act was rewarded subsequently by his appointment to a lucrative Federal office.

THE ADMINISTRATION'S COURSE.

In view of these facts, not yet forgotten by the friends of the Governor, there is some curiosity

to know what course the Administration in Washington will hereafter follow. Will it continue to stand, as it has done so far here and elsewhere, by the "regular organization," or

will the conversion of the Secretary involve with it the transfer of the Federal patronage and sympathy from the followers of the two Senators to the followers of the Governor? Representatives in the lower branch of Congress to those of Governor Pingree? It is a question which is already beginning to agitate the mind of every "practical" politician.

There is a conflict and the conflict and the desperate efforts made in the Legislature subsequently to defeat Burrows for re-election to the Senate foreshadow one of the liveliest political campaigns this autumn the State has yet seen. The Governor never does things by halves, and he never flinches in the face of a difficulty. It is desirable to call a spade a spade. In October last he denounced Burrows in the most violent language on the platform from which both were speaking. He may be depended upon to ease the minds of his constituents by doing so again. Mr. McMillan and his candidacy when the proper time comes. Indeed, as between Burrows and

The claim put forth by Governor Pingree that the election of Secretary Alger to the Senate would "harmonize" the party arouses nothing except merriment. As long as the Governor is the party, or as long as Pingree is Pingree, compromise, or reconciliation, or harmony, or—to borrow the language of diplomacy—a *modus vivendi* is inevitable. The Alger is a *fait accompli*. You must be either with him or against him. Half measures or a conditional

support won't do. If the coalition with Alger involves anything except an unconditional surrender on the part of the Secretary that fact has either escaped notice or been carefully suppressed. Hence it follows that an understanding with the old-time Republicans, except on conditions laid down by the Governor—conditions, it is needless to say, which the two Senators could not accept—is not within the range of human probabilities. It is, in fact, an iridescent dream.

SEES NO REASON FOR RESIGNING.
SECRETARY ALGER SAYS PINGREE IS FOR
M'KINLEY FIRST, LAST AND
ALL THE TIME.
Washington, June 25.—Secretary Alger re-

turned to the city to-night, after an absence of three weeks, in which he visited New-England, and afterward spent some time at his home in Michigan. He says he has enjoyed his outing, and appears benefited by the change.

To callers at his house this evening the Secretary talked freely regarding his announced candidacy for Senatorial honors and of the printed statements of the probability of his leaving the Cabinet because of his alliance with Governor Pingree, who, it has been stated, is opposed to the Administration of President McKinley. He made it plain to his questioners that he did not

propose to resign on this account, as he does not consider his candidacy for the Senate any reason why he should not continue to hold his place as a member of the Cabinet. Governor McKinley first, last and all the time, In his absence from the city the Secretary has been kept fully informed of all dispatches which have been received from General Otis regarding his position in the Philippines. He has been prepared to assign any night for publication respecting what, if any, increase is to be made to the troops under General Otis's command. That matter will be talked over

The secretary in conclusion said he had no knowledge of a dispatch alleged to have been received from General Otis, in which that official intimated his inability to conquer the Filipinos with the force under his command, and that he would be obliged to abandon the ground already taken unless reinforcements were quickly sent. All dispatches from General Otis were forwarded to him, he said, and he had seen nothing of the kind mentioned.